

Rezoning of Mill Site

I am in favor of rezoning of the mill site to industrial use. We need to get that eyesore cleaned up and invest in future jobs for our area. Our City Council has the option to vote no for a special use permit. We have a checks and balance system in place to deny anything that is not good for St. Marys. Isn't that the reason we have a City Council?

There are laws enforced by the EPA and Georgia Department of Natural Resources to protect our marshes and beautiful rivers. I am an environmentalist at heart and live on Dark Entry Creek. I love the marsh and want to keep it healthy. I believe one has to get a permit to dredge a river or build a dock. I did when we built our dock.

I do not, for the life of me, understand why we cannot encourage tourism and still have an industrial park. A buffer zone, so that the industrial park is basically hidden from the road, is possible. Other cities have successfully "beautified" an industrial area with lovely stone walls, berms, and plantings. We need the jobs and wages of industry to support business in downtown St. Marys. Our quaint city will look like a ghost town if businesses continue to fail because customers do not have the income to spend for dining or an evening out on the town. Not too many tourists will want to visit an area that is economically depressed.

I firmly believe the Planning Commission and the City Council can enforce EPA and DNR regulations, keeping our city healthy and attractive to tourists. If we finally get that Technical College, let's keep the graduates employed in St. Marys. We can proudly show off our beautiful city with stores bustling with people. St. Marys will wither without industries to support and sustain it. Residential taxes cannot continue to support the services demanded by our city's citizens. We need help from industry while we continue to promote tourism.

We can work together to continue to have a vibrant and lovely city.

Reeney Adams
114 Crane Island Circle
St. Marys, GA 31558
912-729-2888
Reeney@tds.net